09/786442 ec'd PCT/PTO 0 5 MAR 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tsuneo TAKAHASHI et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

RECEPTOR PROTEIN AND METHOD FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF AN INFLAMMATORY DISEASE BY USING THE SAME

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 8 as follows:

(amended) A replicable recombinant DNA, comprising replicable expression vector and, inserted therein, the isolated DNA according to one of claims 3 to 6.--

## Amend claim 11 as follows:

(amended) A method for screening a ligand which binds to the seven-pass transmembrane receptor protein of claim 1, which comprises: